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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Vermont Schools

FROM: Secretary Vilaseca

SUBJECT: SchoolSpeedTest – June 14th deadline

DATE: 06/11/13

Last week President Obama issued a challenge to America with a bold plan to connect 99% of America's public schools to high-speed Internet and robust wireless networks, so they can access the interactive, individualized learning necessary for success in the digital age.

This is great news for schools looking for ways to upgrade, but we must continue to gather hard data to ensure that budgets effectively prioritize what schools in Vermont need to upgrade their internet, and make the strongest case for funding for Vermont Schools.

Tech Directors and Superintendents in over twenty states are partnering with <a href="EducationSuperHighway"><u>EducationSuperHighway</u></a> to launch their own Internet speed inventories. By collecting **10**<a href="SchoolSpeedTests"><u>SchoolSpeedTests</u></a> from every school in their district or state, administrators and IT staff are discovering how ready their networks are for online learning and assessment activities and locating the schools that the most need support.

In order to accurately understand our schools' needs, we are asking for your help! Please take the automatic <u>SchoolSpeedTest</u> (takes less than a minute) on multiple computers in your school building. The SchoolSpeedTest is online: <a href="http://partners.schoolspeedtest.org/vermont.html">http://partners.schoolspeedtest.org/vermont.html</a>.

You can check to see if your school has taken the test by clicking here: <a href="http://partners.schoolspeedtest.org/the-vermont-almost-tardy-sheet.html">http://partners.schoolspeedtest.org/the-vermont-almost-tardy-sheet.html</a>.

Taking the <u>SchoolSpeedTest</u> will provide you, your principal, and your district with actionable data to improve internet at your school. Learn more here: <a href="http://www.educationsuperhighway.org/national-schoolspeedtest-fact-sheet.html">http://www.educationsuperhighway.org/national-schoolspeedtest-fact-sheet.html</a>.

Please contact Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, at 802-828-5149 or <a href="mailto:peter.drescher@state.vt.us">peter.drescher@state.vt.us</a> with any questions.